



UAL Extended Diploma

What our students say....

**SHANNON
CATHCART**



Subjects: **UAL EXTENDED DIPLOMA
IN CREATIVE PRACTICE :**

High School:
St Augustine's

**ART, DESIGN &
COMMUNICATION**

What do you particularly enjoy about studying the UAL Extended Diploma?

I find the freedom to explore any technique and specialism very enriching as an artist as it has allowed me to develop a variety of skills that all inform my projects. It feels like there are no limitations on the type of work I can produce which allows me to be ambitious and experiment.

How much work is involved? (hours in lessons / outside of lessons)

I currently have 12 hours of lesson time a week and we are expected to also complete work outside of lessons as the course can be more independently driven at times, mostly during specialist units. There is always enough time in study periods for me to complete work; so much so that I've even been able to complete the UAL Insights program alongside this course. I'd often work on two large projects at once and it was manageable due to the support offered by both Carmel staff and my Insights tutors.

If you studied the subject at GCSE how different is studying it at Level 3?

I found GCSE art & design to be incredibly restricting as realism seemed to be the only acceptable art form, however this course feels completely different. Any art form is seen as valid and it is encouraged that you explore specialisms based on what you are interested in - not based on what will get you marks. People on this course specialise in 2D and 3D animation, textiles, fashion media, photography, graphic design, interiors and much more which is something I never experienced during my GCSE.

How are you assessed and how regularly?

We have large assessments after the completion of a unit but we regularly have Microsoft Teams submissions so that our tutors can check up on our work, give us feedback and push using the right direction. Those submissions aren't final and we can always improve our grade before the final unit submission. Generally, a unit lasts a few months.

What support have you received and is support available if you don't understand something?

Support is always available from tutors and you can even ask tutors that don't teach you for advice; which I have done many times. All you have to do is ask.

Have you received careers support and what are your future plans?

The majority of my careers support came from the UAL Insights program but it is definitely available at Carmel if you seek it out. I went to the career office a lot in year 12 to figure out higher education and seek advice on job applications. My future plan is to complete a degree in fashion media and become a fashion communicator; whether that be a creative director, photographer, make-up artist or fashion stylist.



www.carmel.ac.uk

Visit our website for more information about our UAL Diploma in Creative Practice course.